

Patent Claims

1. A conjugate consisting of insulin-like growth factor binding protein 4 (IGFBP-4) and one or two poly(ethylene glycol) group(s), said poly(ethylene glycol) group(s) having an overall molecular weight of from about 30 to about 40 kDa .
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2. A conjugate according to claim 1, characterized in that the poly(ethylene glycol) group(s) is/are branched poly(ethylene glycol) group(s).
3. A conjugate according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the conjugate is linked via primary amino group(s) of IGFBP-4.
- 10 4. A conjugate according to claim 1, characterized in that the conjugate is linked via cysteine 110 and/or cysteine 117 of IGFBP-4.
5. A conjugate according to claims 1 to 3 containing one poly(ethylene glycol) group.
- 15 6. A method for the preparation of a conjugate comprising an insulin-like growth factor binding protein-4 (IGFBP-4) and one or two poly(ethylene glycol) group(s), said poly(ethylene glycol) group(s) having an overall molecular weight of from about 30 to about 40 kDa, said method comprising reacting the IGFBP-4 with activated (polyethylene) glycol under conditions such that said (polyethylene) glycol is chemically bound to said IGFBP-4 via
20 primary amino groups or thiol groups of IGFBP-4.
7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a conjugate of claims 1 to 4 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
8. Use of a conjugate according to claims 1 to 4 for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of cancer.
- 25 9. A method for the treatment of cancer comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a conjugate of claims 1 to 4.